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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES



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STATE OF MONTANA

HELENA, MONTANA 59620

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DEC 19 1983

December 12, 1983

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Re: Preliminary Environmental Review
Proposed K. G. Drew Class II
Landfill, Seeley Lake, MT

Ann Mary Dussault, Board of Co. Commissioners, Courthouse, Missoula, MT
Missoula County Planning Dept., 301 W. Alder, Missoula, MT
Ed Zuleger, Missoula City-Co Health Dept., 301 W. Alder, Missoula, MT
Environmental Quality Council, Capitol Bldg., Rm. 403, Helena, MT
Tom Ellerhoff, Env. Sciences, DHES, Cogswell Building, Helena, MT
Kerry Drew, Star Route, Box 410, Greenough, MT
Harold Chamber, State Library, Capitol Complex, Helena, MT
Mr. Irv Geisler, Chairman, c/o Seeley Lake Refuse Disposal District,
Seeley Lake, MT

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Pursuant to the Administrative Rules of Montana, 16.2.604,
the following Preliminary Environmental Review has been prepared by the
Department of Health and Environmental Sciences concerning the proposed
Drew Class II landfill, Seeley Lake.

The purpose of the Preliminary Environmental Review is to inform
all interested governmental agencies, public groups or individuals of
the proposed action and to determine whether or not the action may have
a significant effect on the human environment. This Preliminary
Environmental Review will be circulated for a period of fifteen (15)
days at which time a decision will be made as to our future action.

If you care to comment on this proposed action, please do so within
the allotted time.

Sincerely,

JAMES E. LEITER
Solid Waste Management Bureau
Environmental Sciences Division

JEL:vc
Encls.

PHASE RELIGION

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES
Cogswell Building, Helena, Montana 59601
(406) 444-2821

PRELIMINARY ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

Division/Bureau Environmental Sciences Division/Solid Waste Management Bureau
Project or Application Proposed Kerry Drew Landfill, Seeley Lake, MT
Description of Project Kerry G. Drew, Star Route, Box 410, Greenough, MT.,
proposes to open a Class II landfill on a ten acre parcel on his ranch. The parcel
is located at the SW $\frac{1}{4}$, NW $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 33, Township 16N, Range 14W. The landfill will
serve the Seeley Lake vicinity and the operator is negotiating a contract with the
Seeley Lake Refuse Disposal District. There is currently no other licensed landfill
facility in the vicinity of Seeley Lake. A complete application is available
for inspection at the office of the Solid Waste Mgmt. Bureau, Cogswell Bldg.,
Helena, MT 59620 or may be obtained on written request.

POTENTIAL IMPACT ON PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

	Major	Moderate	Minor	None	Unknown	Comments on Attached Pages
1. Terrestrial & aquatic life and habitats			X			X
2. Water quality, quantity and distribution				X		
3. Geology & soil quality, stability and moisture			X			X
4. Vegetation cover, quantity and quality			X			X
5. Aesthetics			X			X
6. Air quality			X			X
7. Unique, endangered, fragile, or limited environmental resources				X		
8. Demands on environmental resources of land, water, air & energy			X			X
9. Historical and archaeological sites				X		

POTENTIAL IMPACTS ON HUMAN ENVIRONMENT

	Major	Moderate	Minor	None	Unknown	Comments on Attached Pages
1. Social structures and mores				X		
2. Cultural uniqueness and diversity				X		
3. Local and state tax base & tax revenue				X		
4. Agricultural or industrial production				X		
5. Human health				X		
6. Quantity and distribution of community and personal income				X		
7. Access to and quality of recreational and wilderness activities				X		
8. Quantity and distribution of employment			X			X
9. Distribution and density of population and housing				X		
10. Demands for government services			X			X
11. Industrial & commercial activity			X			X
12. Demands for energy			X			X
13. Locally adopted environmental plans & goals				X		
14. Transportation networks & traffic flows			X			X

Other groups or agencies contacted or which may have overlapping jurisdiction Missoula City-County Health Department

Individuals or groups contributing to this PER. _____

Recommendation concerning preparation of EIS No EIS necessary

PER Prepared by: _____

James E. Leiter
JAMES E. LEITER

Date: December 12, 1983

PROPOSED KERRY DREW LANDFILL

The landfill proposed would be located approximately $\frac{1}{2}$ mile east of Salmon Lake, with access from the Woodworth Road. The privately owned parcel is located in a glacial kettle in a forested area in the SW $\frac{1}{4}$, NW $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 33, Township 16N, Range 14W.

Comprehensive soil logging and drilling has been done at the proposed site, and the permeabilities and depths to groundwater appear adequate for licensing.

POTENTIAL IMPACT ON PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

#1) Terrestrial and aquatic life and habitats Operation of a sanitary landfill in this relatively undisturbed area may have a minor impact on some terrestrial wildlife. Since the landfill will most likely be operated two to three days per weeks, the impact should not be significant. Some small mammal species may relocate outside the ten acres onto surrounding property.

#3) Geology and soil quality, stability and moisture Replacement of natural soils with solid waste will change the elevations, rate of subsidence, and moisture capacities in the immediate landfill area. Some drainage will be diverted around the active landfill area, but a general increase or disturbance in runoff patterns is not expected.

#4) Vegetation cover, quantity and quality - During the active landfill period vegetative cover will be removed from much of the surface area of the site. Upon completion of any area, proper sloping, soil cover and revegetation will minimize the exposed areas. After final completion of the landfill the site can be totally revegetated.

#5) Aesthetics - Operation of a sanitary landfill will have a minor impact on aesthetics in the area. The effect should be highly localized, however, as the landfill site is not visible from adjacent property or roadways. Smoke from periodic burning of wood wastes and the presence of vehicles hauling solid waste to the site should be the only visible evidence of the operation. Roadside litter will be a consideration and the district and the operator will have to enact a comprehensive public education program to insure that vehicles are properly covered.

#6) Air Quality - Periodic burning of untreated wood wastes will be allowed at the site, only if a permit is obtained in advance. Even on days of good ventilation, the burning will have some minor affect on air quality. The effects will be minimized through proper control of the pile size, ventilation, and other easily controlled variables.

#8) Demands on environmental resources of land, water, air and energy - Expected impact will be minor. Some land area which is currently out of productive use will be placed into service as landfill. Operation of heavy equipment will, of necessity, result in consumption of diesel fuel. Since solid waste is currently trucked to Missoula, there will be some offset in fuel consumption by lessening the distance for disposal.



POTENTIAL IMPACTS ON HUMAN ENVIRONMENT

#8) Quantity and distribution of employment - Operation of a new commercial enterprise will have a positive affect in the immediate area. Such affect will be minor, however, as only one or two employees will be required to "work" the landfill.

#10) Demands for government services - Establishment of a new landfill site will cause additional need for state and local inspections. Total time for such inspections will be minimal.

#11) Industrial and commercial activity - The new landfill will cause some increase in commercial activity in the area of the site.

#12) Demands for energy - (See #8 above)

#14) Transportation networks and traffic flows - There will be an increase in traffic flow to the Salmon Lake, Tote Lake areas as individuals haul their own waste loads to the site. Such impact should be minor, however, and should not result in safety hazards on interference with other traffic.

